



Joint Information Center

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

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DATE AND TIME: January 9, 2007 12:14:53 PM #15

Progress continues in restoring power to rural areas

Joint Information Center, Grand Island, NE:

Progress continues in the efforts to restore electricity to rural Nebraska, and to move communities from emergency generators to on-line power. It is estimated that approximately 6,000 to 7,000 rural customers* are still without power in six affected power districts. Line crews continue to repair and replace downed lines, and it is expected that power will be restored to the large majority of those customers within two weeks. This is a significant improvement since Sunday morning, when approximately 9,600 customers were without power across 12 power districts, according to public power officials.

There are now eight communities that are still receiving emergency power through emergency generators. On-line power has been restored to the communities of Riverton, Upland, Heartwell and Ragan, which had all been receiving emergency generator power over the weekend.

Originally, approximately 2,900 miles of electrical transmission lines were out of service. As of Tuesday morning, approximately 2,600 miles of electrical transmission lines were out of service. Specifically regarding NPPD's major transmission lines, there had been 37 lines (843 miles of line) out of service directly after the storm. Since then, 15 of the major transmission lines, (104 miles of line) have been restored.

Although high winds on Monday did prevent some aerial line work in some instances, it did not hamper overall restoration work to a significant degree, because crews were able to continue to do preparatory work on the ground.

** The number of customers represents residences and businesses, and is not a count of individuals. Most of those still without service live in rural or remote areas.*